Non-Conventional Energy Sources in Punjab and Maharashtra

452. SHRI DARA SINGH: Will the Minister of NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government propose to make it obligatory on States to meet ten per cent of their total power needs from non-conventional energy sources;

(b) if so, what steps/schemes and programmes have been undertaken/ launched by Government in various States under the non-conventional energy programmes; and

(c) the details thereof and the results achieved in this regard in Punjab and Maharashtra till date?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Does not arise, However, to promote deployment of grid-interactive renewable power, financial and fiscal incentives are being provided that include capital/interest subsidy, accelerated depreciation, concessional duties and relief from taxes. In addition, preferential tariff is being given to renewable power in most potential States. Publicity and awareness on renewable energy is also created through print, postal and electronic media and special events like the Rajiv Gandhi Akshay Urja Diwas are being organised. District-level Advisory Committees have been constituted in the States to facilitate effective coordination of renewable energy schemes/ programmes. A capacity of around 143MW grid-interactive renewable power has been set up in Punjab and Maharashtra respectively as on 31.12.2005.

Setting up of Garbage based Power Plants

453. SHRI TARIQ ANWAR: Will the Minister of NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether in view of the successful working of a big power plant based on use of garbage and solid waste as fuel in the city of Hyderabad, Government have decided as a matter of policy to set up power plants using the city garbage as fuel in other big cities like Mumbai, Delhi, Kolkata and Chennai as well;

(b) if so, the decision taken in the matter; and

(c) whether any of the State Government's have submitted projects proposals for setting up garbage based power plants to augment power supply, if so, the details of such proposals, and Government's response and reaction thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR): (a) and (b) Ministry of Non-Conventional Energy Sources has developed a National Programme on Energy from Urban Wastes, which includes promotion of projects for generation of power from Refuse Derived Fuel produced from city garbage. The projects can be set up in other towns and cities, as is being done at Hyderabad and Vijayawada. The Programme provides for financial assistance for setting up such projects as well as projects based on other technologies and other urban wastes.

(c) No proposals have so far been received from any State Governments. However, work has been initiated in some States for development of proposals for setting up garbage based power projects.

Financial assistance to rice mills in Tamil Nadu

454. SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN: Will the Minister of NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are providing financial assistance for installing biomass gasifiers in rice mills in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether such assistance is being provided to rice mills in Tamil Nadu as well?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Ministry of Non-Conventional Energy Sources is implementing a programme which provides partial financial assistance to encourage the installation of biomass gasifiers in rice mills for meeting their captive energy requirements. The assistance ranges from Rs. 20.00